

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks. Claims 6-17 were pending prior to the Office Action. In this Amendment, claim 18 is added. Therefore, claims 6-18 are pending. Claims 6, 7, and 18 are independent.

In the Office Action, claims 6-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Shimizu (U.S. Publication No. 2004/0012812) and claims 14-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Shimizu. Applicant respectfully traverses.

It is well established that for a §102 rejection to be proper, the cited reference must teach or suggest each and every claimed element. *See M.P.E.P. 2131; M.P.E.P. 706.02*. Thus, if the cited reference fails to teach or suggest one or more elements, then the rejection is improper and must be withdrawn.

Independent claim 6 recites, in part “wherein when the storage unit successively stores the data to be processed, the control unit controls to carry out successive information processing of the data to be processed already stored in the storage unit.” Shimizu describes an image memory section 505 including a hard disk 506 for storing read image of the original, information of association between jobs and security levels, etc. *See [0127]*. Shimizu also describes erasing images, information of association between jobs and security levels after the printing process *See [0099] and [0106]*. However, Shimizu fails to disclose at least the above-recited feature.

Therefore, independent claim 6 is distinguishable over Shimizu. Independent claim 7 recites a similar feature. For similar reasons, independent claim 7 is distinguishable over Shimizu. Claims 8-13 are distinguishable over Shimizu by virtue of their dependencies from claims 6 and 7. Claims 6 and 7 are also not obvious over Shimizu. Therefore, claims 14-17 are also not obvious over Shimizu. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections of claims based on Shimizu be withdrawn.


Claim 18 is added through this Amendment. No new matter is added. Claim 18 recites, in part, "wherein when the storage means successively stores the data to be processed, the controlling means controls to carry out successive information processing of the data to be processed already stored in the storage unit." Shimizu fails to teach or suggest this feature. Thus, claim 18 is allowable. Applicant respectfully requests that the new claim be allowed.

All objections and rejections raised in the Office Action having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Hyung Sohn (Reg. No. 44,346), to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the undersigned's deposit account #14-1140 in whatever amount is necessary for entry of these papers and the continued pendency of the captioned application.

Respectfully submitted,

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